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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. DELBENE).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

I hereby appoint the Honorable SUZAN K. DELBENE to act as Speaker pro tempore on

> NANCY PELOSI, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

REMEMBERING GENERAL COLIN POWELL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. Dingell) for 5 min-

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, this week, our country lost a great American, and I stand here today to remember a giant: General Colin Powell.

He was a statesman who loved his country fiercely. He was a trailblazer who served with love, integrity, and pride. He helped shape American foreign and military policy for years. He believed public service was the most important job in the world.

His leadership, full of honesty and listening, inspired generations. He treated every person with dignity and respect. Until his dying day, he opposed the fear and the hatred dividing this country. He believed in America's promise, and he left that as his legacy. He stood on principle and believed in the good of life.

Today, we remember his steadfast leadership, his commitment to family, and his strong enduring presence.

Please join me in sending love and prayers to Alma and the Powell family in the difficult times ahead.

I close with some of the General's own wisdom: "The ties that bind us together are far stronger than the occasional stresses that separate us.'

HONORING NATIONAL SPINA BIFIDA AWARENESS MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. HERN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HERN. Madam Speaker, today, I rise in honor of National Spina Bifida Awareness Month.

Spina bifida is a rare condition that develops in the womb. It stems from a hole in the spinal cord, a condition known as a neural tube defect. As the spinal column fails to close properly, nearly every major organ system is im-

Children born with spina bifida typically undergo dozens of surgeries at a young age. For those who survive to adulthood, they live with complex physical, mental, and other health challenges.

There are precious few resources available for the 166,000 individuals living with spina bifida in the United States, including my sister and my niece. I have another sister who was born with spina bifida as well and passed away shortly after birth.

I am very familiar with the challenges faced by those who suffer from spina bifida. It has been a part of my life since childhood.

The medical community has taken many steps forward since my sisters were diagnosed with spina bifida several decades ago. Whereas spina bifida used to be a childhood death sentence. many individuals with spina bifida are living well into adulthood, a tremendous milestone. But there is more we

Funding for spina bifida is low. There is only one entity in the Federal Government studying spina bifida. It is the Spina Bifida Program at the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities at the CDC.

Americans living with spina bifida deserve the same respect and dignity in life as everyone else. Spina bifida research needs dedicated funding to ensure a better future for Americans with spina bifida.

REMEMBERING PAT CAMPBELL

Mr. HERN. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Pat Campbell, a friend not only to me but to many Oklahomans who listened to him on the radio every morning.

Pat passed away yesterday morning after a long fight with brain cancer. Everyone who knew Pat knows he was

Pat got his start on radio largely on accident, because he would call in and debate a liberal radio host. The station was so impressed with his calls that they gave him his own show.

After that, he became a regular guest of Tucker Carlson's on MSNBC and would go on to be a guest commentator on shows like "The O'Reilly Factor" and "Fox and Friends."

Pat had an extraordinary impact on radio, not only in Tulsa but around the Nation. He was a passionate voice for conservative values and a truly great friend.

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

